

Message Text

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43

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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R 240705Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5146

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L WARSAW 3238

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, MILI, VS

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PRISONERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

REF: STATE 119481

1. AS INSTRUCTED PARA 5 OF REFTTEL, POLITICAL COUNSELOR RE-
NEWED REQUEST TO MFA DEPARTMENT III DEPUTY DIRECTOR
PAWLISZEWSKI ON MAY 23 FOR THE MFA TO USE ITS GOOD OFFICES
WITH THE PRG TO SEEK INFORMATION ON THE WELFARE AND WHERE-
ABOUTS OF THE BAN ME THUOT GROUP AND LEWIS.

2. PAWLISZEWSKI TOOK NOTES AND SAID HE WOULD BRING OUR RE-
QUEST IMMEDIATELY TO THE ATTENTION OF HIS SUPERIORS. HE
ADDED THAT THE MFA HAD PASSED OUR EARLIER REQUESTS ON THE
BAN ME THUOT GROUP TO THE PRG IN SAIGON THROUGH THE POLISH
ICCS DELEGATION BUT HAD RECEIVED NO REPLY FROM THE PRG. THAT
DELEGATION HAS NOW BEEN WITHDRAWN AND ONLY A SKELETON ADMINIS-
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TATIVE GROUP REMAINS WITH NO GOP DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION

AS SUCH IN SAIGON. PAWLISZEWSKI ACKNOWLEDGED, HOWEVER, THAT THE PRG EMBASSY IN WARSAW WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE CHANNEL. PAWLISZEWSKI AGREED THAT THIS WAS AN IMPORTANT HUMANITARIAN ISSUE WHICH DESERVED SERIOUS ATTENTION, BUT MADE NO SPECIFIC COMMITMENT OTHER THAN TO PASS OUR REQUEST ALONG TO HIS SUPERIORS.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THE GOP WAS MORE COMFORTABLE USING ITS ICCS CHANNEL TO THE PRG IN SAIGON THAN WORKING WITH THE PRG EMBASSY HERE ON ISSUES INVOLVING THE US. WE HAVE HAD SEVERAL REPORTS FROM MFA OFFICIALS AND POLISH JOURNALISTS THAT BOTH THE DRV AND PRG EMBASSIES HERE HAVE BEEN SHARPLY CRITICAL OF THE RELATIVELY GENTLE PRESS TREATMENT HERE OF THE US ON THE VIETNAMESE ISSUE. AS WE HAVE REPORTED. THIS HAS BEEN CARRIED TO THE EXTREME OF POLISH TELEVISION MENTIONING THE FRENCH COLONIAL WAR BUT NOT THE UNITED STATES IN EDITORIAL RETROSPECTIVES ON THE END OF 30 YEARS OF WARS IN VIET-NAM AND THE RECENT ANNIVERSARY OF HO CHI MINH'S BIRTH.
DAVIES

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NNN

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